

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph bridging Pages 5 and 6 with the following amended paragraph:

In response to this problem, Martini et al. have proposed to add a "virtual connection" label (or VC label) to the stack of labels used in transporting layer 2 packets through MPLS tunnels. This proposal is described in detail in an IETF draft entitled "Encapsulation Methods for Transport of Layer 2 Frames over MPLS" (May, 2001), which is incorporated herein by reference. ~~This document is available at search.ietf.org/internet-drafts/draft-martini-l2circuit-encap-mpls-02.txt.~~ The same authors also specify label distribution procedures for binding the VC label to the desired tunnel in a further draft entitled "Transport of Layer 2 Frames over MPLS" (May, 2001), which is likewise incorporated herein by reference. ~~This latter document is available at search.ietf.org/internet-drafts/draft-martini-l2circuit-mpls-06.txt.~~ The above documents are available on the IETF Web site.